




St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

Curriculum Information

Foundation Stage Spring Term 2019

Subject	What are we doing in school?	How can you help at home?
<p data-bbox="324 459 533 494">Mathematics</p> 	<p data-bbox="674 416 779 440">Number</p> <p data-bbox="674 451 1279 695">In our Maths lessons this term, we are focusing on addition and subtraction. The children will be learning how to add and subtract together two single digit numbers and then record this as a number sentence. The children will also be encouraged to think of their own number problems for their friends to solve.</p> <p data-bbox="674 738 1003 762">Shape, Space and Measure</p> <p data-bbox="674 774 1290 1090">The children will be learning the names of 3D shapes and their properties. We will use the classroom environment to view these shapes and talk about where we find them in everyday life. In the mud kitchen the children will be set a variety of fun challenges focusing on ordering. These include: ordering two or three items by length or height and ordering two items by weight or capacity.</p>	<p data-bbox="1314 416 2013 480">Topmarks is a brilliant website that the children can use to practise all different aspects of maths.</p> <p data-bbox="1314 523 1653 547">http://www.topmarks.co.uk</p> <p data-bbox="1314 595 1962 695">Try and find 3D shapes in your home. Search the food cupboards, kitchen and living room and talk about the properties of the shapes you find with your child.</p> <p data-bbox="1314 738 2002 874">Bake a cake together, talk about how to use the weighing scales and compare the weight of all the different ingredients. Can your child tell you which the heaviest/lightest item is?</p> <p data-bbox="1314 917 2029 1018">Please remember to add this home learning to Tapestry, we love to see how you supporting your child's learning at home.</p>
<p data-bbox="212 1185 640 1265">Science (Understanding the World)</p>	<p data-bbox="674 1139 779 1163">Growing</p> <p data-bbox="674 1174 1285 1377">In Science this term, we will be focusing on growing. We will be growing our own vegetables and plants towards the end of the spring term. The children will learn how to care for their plants and to discuss the changes in their environment during the spring time.</p>	<p data-bbox="1314 1139 2013 1203">There are lots of activities you can do together at home to support your child's understanding of this topic.</p> <p data-bbox="1314 1246 2018 1347">Go on a walk – Talk about the changes you see in the environment, what do you notice about the trees? Did you see any baby animals?</p>



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At the end of the term the children will be able to:

- Talk about why things happen and how things work.
- Develop an understanding of growth, decay and changeover time.
- Show care and concern for living things and the environment.

When gardening at home involve your child and talk to them about how to care for plants/ vegetables you are growing. Can they tell you what a plant needs to grow?

We would love to see your pictures of these activities on Tapestry!

Reading



We love reading in Foundation Stage! Children read in class every day. They read in a variety of ways including whole class, small group and individual reading.

We will be beginning mini comprehension lessons which will involve us looking at pictures from stories and picture books to answer questions verbally. A way you could help at home is to always ask your child about what they read to ensure the understanding is there.

Books will be changed when we feel the children are able to read the words using their phonics knowledge and when they can confidently retell and understand the text. We may send the same book home for a second reading if we feel more practise is needed with the above. We aim to change the books once a week and encourage the

We hope you will support us in listening to children read at home, if possible, **a minimum of three times a week.**

Your comments are a valuable contribution to the reading record so once you have read together with your child please record your experience which helps us to know when to change books.

Oxford Owl offers 250 free e-books which can be accessed at home. It's free to register and provides a wide variety of different texts for your child to read.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>



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Literacy



children to bring their book bags in every day so that they are ready to change.

In Literacy, we are encouraging the children to become independent when writing. The children are applying their phonics knowledge into their written work and trying hard to write words and even some sentences! The children have access to sound mats and tricky words to support them with their writing.

Each week the children complete a piece of unaided work in their literacy books. The teacher then sits with the child to talk about the positives and together with the child they set a next step e.g. to use finger spaces. This allows the children to evaluate their own work and take ownership. Our Literacy focus this term is 'People who help us' and we will have lots of exciting experiences for the children which will hopefully produce some exciting, fantastic writing!

Letter Formation

We have handwriting lessons at least twice a week, which begin with a dough disco, a flipper flapper dance to develop gross motor skills and then using PenPals to form our letters. The children are working hard to ensure that they are forming their letters correctly. In addition we have daily fine motor activities available to strengthen the children's muscles ready for writing.

Some great websites to support your child's phonics at home :

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

<http://www.ictgames.com/literacy.html>

A game to play at home is a tricky word hunt. Write down the tricky words from the phonics phase your child is working on and hide them around the house. Once your child has found the words ask them to make their own. You can do the same with phonetically decidable words such as cat, fish, boat etc. (see the letters and sounds website for lists of words to use)

If your child is finding letter formation with a pencil difficult try writing letters in sand/ flour and use play dough to strengthen their hand muscles. The website below has lots of activities to try at home:

<http://handsonaswegrow.com/fine-motor-skills-activities/>



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Spelling

Phase 2 to 5 Tricky Words			
Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5
I	he	said	sh
no	the	have	his
the	we	like	people
to	me	so	their
go	be	do	called
was	you	some	the
	are	come	looked
	her	little	under
	now	are	read
	all	were	
	they	there	
	what	when	
	my	out	

For spellings in Foundation Stage we focus on tricky and high frequency words.

The children's spellings are placed into their reading records and will be changed when the child is able to both read and write the words. Please practise these spellings regularly at home.

In addition, the children will be receiving Tricky word mats matched to their phonics level. These are words which cannot be sounded out and must be learnt by sight.

The Letters and Sounds website contains a wealth of free resources to support your child's phonics.

They have a variety of resources for every phase from 1-6. Please ask your child's class teacher if you are unsure of which phonics phase your child is currently working at.

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>

RE



Gathering

This term in RE our focus is gathering. We will be thinking about all the different times that people may gather together such as at Mass, a birthday, wedding, and christening. We will talk about the roles of different people in the church.

We will be learning about the time that Jesus blessed the children. 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these'.

The children will be thinking about how we as individuals fit into the church community and share their own experiences with the class.

To help at home, it would be brilliant if you could encourage the children to talk about what experiences they have of the topic. How and when have they had to gather with others? How did they feel when they were with everyone?

Read the bible story of Jesus blessing the children together at home. Ask your child to recall key parts of the story. Can they write their own version of the bible story or draw a picture?



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PE



The children have PE Lessons on Wednesday mornings and focus on skills such as balancing, moving with confidence and control and developing their gross motor skills. We plan our PE lessons to link with the current topic, for example animals. We also enjoy trips to the adventure playground which is great for the children's gross motor development.

It is so important that all children have PE kit in school, as PE is a very important part of our curriculum.

There are occasions when extra PE slots are available so it is always a good idea to have kit at school all week. A plain white T-shirt, white shorts and black plimsolls are required for indoor P.E. and we would like the children to wear plain dark tracksuit bottoms and trainers for P.E. outside and for the colder weather. Please remove earrings, jewellery and watches at home on PE day as children are required to remove their own earrings because teachers are not authorised to remove them. Please name your child's kit and PE bag.

Homework

In Foundation Stage the children's homework mainly consists of their home reading and learning their spellings.

We will give out additional homework or activities to do together at home to further support your child's understanding of a particular topic or skill.

Remember to check Tapestry regularly for announcements and tasks to complete at home.